



04-12-04

RCE/2700

PTO/SB/301

**Request
For
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number	09/504,239
Filing Date	February 15, 2000
First Named Inventor	Bruce L. Davis
Group Art Unit	2625
Examiner Name	J. Patel
Attorney Docket Number	60114

qBLS

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, File Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule 65 Fed. Reg. 14864 (mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☒ Application Data Sheet
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ **NOTICE OF COPIED CLAIMS:** Claims 33 and 34 are copied from or are substantially similar to claim 29 of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003-0069853 A1, published April 10, 2003 (Bryant). The present application claims priority to dates before the priority date of the Bryant publication.

RECEIVED

APR 15 2004

Technology Center 2600

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1071.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) : 04/13/2004 SZEWDIE1 00000163 501071 09504239
01 FC:1801 770.00 DA
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 AND 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Steven W. Stewart	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	45,133
Signature		Date	April 9, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service with Express Mail No. EV324207714US addressed to , Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: April 9, 2004

Name (Print/Type)	Steven W. Stewart	Date	April 9, 2004
Signature			